alongwith other nations. India must therefore comply with the requirements of Section 609 by 1st May, 1996 in order to continue exporting of such shrimp to USA beyond this date. On October, 8, 1996, the U.S. Court of International Trade ruled that shrimp harvested in the wild may not be imported into the U.S. unless the harvesting nation is certified under Section 609 of Public law 101-162 as possessing an approved sea turtle protection regime. As per the clarification received from the U.S. Embassy at New Delhi, the new Court ruling prohibits importation of all shrimp from uncertified countries, except shrimp harvested from aquaculture.

(c) The Government of India has already authorised Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) to countersign a certificate (DSP-121 as prescribed by U.S. Govt.) and authenticated by the exporters concerned that a particular consignment of shrimps for exports to USA has been sourced from aquaculture. Government of India has begun to assess the efficacy of the present sea turtle protection programme. State Governments have been requested to cooperate in this direction to safeguard sea turtles and the shrimp trade.

(d) and (e) The Government of India jointly with the Governments of Malaysia, Pakistan and Thailand have already approached World Trade organisation through Dispute Settlement Mechanism for redressal of the ban imposed by U.S. Government.

Introduction of dual price system in PDS

*152. PROF. RAM KAPSE: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to introduce a dual price mechanism for the beneficiaries of the PDS in the country;

(b) the norms being fixed for fixation of prices for the 'affluent section' and the actual poor alongwith price differentials for both the categories;

(c) whether the recommendations of the Standing Committee on Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs on the PDS policy have been taken into consideration before finalising the dual price policy;

(d) whether Government are considering hike in price in near future for the 'affluent section' so as to subsidise the 'actual poor'; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV): (a) to (e) Yes, Sir. The issue of streamlining the Public Distribution System with focus on the poor by issue of separate cards for the population below poverty line and issuing commodities at half the normal issue price was discussed in the Conference of Chief Ministers in July 96 and later with State Food Ministers on 7th August 96. The Conference endorsed the proposal for the provision of specially subsidised foodgrains to the population below poverty line.

Streamlining the PDS on these lines is under consideration of the Government.

Implementation of NCRL's Report of 1991

*153. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Commission on Rural Labour (NCRL) in its Report of 1991 had recommended that the minimum rate of wages for the agricultural workers should not be fixed below Rs. 20 per day on the basis of prices prevailing during 1990s;

(b) if so, whether the recommendation has been implementated by the State Governments, particularly that of Gujarat;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the action Government propose to take to implement the recommendations of NCRL throughout the country for the benefit of agricultural workers?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (d) The National Commission on Rural Labour in its report

submitted in 1991 recommended, inter alia, that no employment in agriculture should be allowed at less than a daily wage rate of Rs. 20/- at 1990 prices. While this would be the floor level, the Government at the Centre and the State should be free to fix minimum Wages above that level on the basis of skills, areas, occupations etc. Under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, both the Central and the State Governments are the appropriate Governments for the fixation/revision of minimum rates of wages for the areas of scheduled employments falling under their respective jurisdictions. Accordingly, the recommendations of the National Commission on Rural Labour was circulated to all State Governments/Union Territory Administrations for implementation. The Central Government has been advising the State Governments from time to time to revise the minimum wages in accordance with the recommendations of the National Commission on Rural Labour. This question has also been discussed in several fora including the Indian Labour Conference, Labour Ministers' Conference & the Regional Labour Ministers' Conferences held from time to time. A statement showing the daily rates of wages for agricultural workers fixed by different States/ Union Territory Administrations under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948 is enclosed.

Statement

Daily rates of Minimum Wages for Agricultural Workers fixed by different States/UTs. under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948

(As on 1.10.1996)

Sl. No.	State/UTs.	Minimum wages for unskilled agricultural workers.
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Rs.. 30.00 to Rs. 36.50 p.d. (According to Zones)' (12.2.96)
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	Rs. 21.00 to Rs. 24.00 p.d. (According to Areas) (1.11.90)
3.	Assam	Rs. 1134.00 p.m.* or Rs. 984.00 p.m. plus food, shelter and clothing (1.8.89)
4.	Bihar	Rs. 27.30 p.d. (21.12.95)
5.	Goa	Rs. 46.00 p.d. (8.5.95)
6.	Gujarat	Rs. 34.00 p.d. (1.4.96)
7.	Haryana	Rs. 51.52 p.d.* with meals or Rs. 55.52 p.d. without meals (1.1.95)
8.	Himachal Pradesh	Rs. 45.75 p.d. (1.3.96)
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	Rs. 30.00 p.d. (13.3.95)

1	2	3
10.	Karnataka	Rs. 26.00 to Rs. 35.35 p.d. (28.3.94)
11.	Kerala	Rs. 30.00 p.d. for light work Rs. 40.20 p.d. for hard work (31.3.92)
12.	Madhya Pradesh	Rs. 35.30 to Rs. 38.50 p.d.* (1.4.96)
13.	Maharashtra	Rs. 20.00 to Rs. 29.00 p.d. (According to Zones) (26.6.94)
14.	Manipur	Rs. 47.65 p.d. * for Hill Areas Rs. 44.65 p.d. for other than (1.12.88) the Hill Areas
15.	Meghalaya	Rs. 35.00 p.d. (16.3.93)
16.	Mizoram	Rs. 35.00 p.d. (11.6.93)
17.	Nagaland	Rs. 25.00 p.d. (6.7.92)
18.	Orissa	Rs. 30.00 p.d. (15.8.96)
19.	Punjab	Rs. 50.65 p.d. * with meals Rs. 57.20 p.d. without meals (1.7.95)
20.	Rajasthan	Rs. 32.00 p.d. (Jan. 95)
21.	Sikkim	The Minimum Wages Act, 1948 yet to be extended.
22.	Tamil Nadu	Rs. 20.00 p.d. (8.4.93)
23.	Tripura	Rs. 26.65 p.d. (15.5.95)
24.	Uttar Pradesh	Rs. 33.00 p.d. to Rs. 35.00 p.d. (7.1.92)
25.	West Bengal	Rs. 37.00 p.d.* Rs. 27.80 p.d. Plus two principal (12.8.82) meals
26.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	Rs. 37.00 p.d. (Andaman) Rs. 40.00 p.d. (Nicobar) (15.8.94)
27.	Chandigarh	Rs. 39.42 p.d. * with meals or Rs. 43.25 p.d. without meal (30.8.88)

1	2	3
28.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	Rs. 40.00 p.d. (18.5.95)
29.	Delhi	Rs. 64.50 p.d.* (1.2.94)
30.	Daman & Diu	Rs. 35.00 p.d. (8.5.95)
31.	Lakshadweep	Rs. 30.00 p.d. (1.1.93)
32.	**Pondicherry**	
	(i) Pondicherry Region	Rs. 20.00 to Rs. 22.00 p.d. (24.7.95)
	(ii) Mahe Region	Rs. 30.00 p.d. for light work Rs. 40.20 p.d. for hard work (24.7.95)
	(iii) Yanamk Region	Rs. 19.25 to Rs. 26.25 p.d. (24.7.95)
	(iv) Karaikal	Rs. 20.00 to Rs. 22.00 p.d. (24.7.95)
33.	Central Sphere	Rs. 56.09 p.d* to Rs. 63.09 p.d. (12.8.92)

NOTE:- (i) The Minimum Wages also include the variable dearness allowance, wherever provided.

(ii) Figures in bracket under column (3) indicate the date of last revision of basic wage.

(iii) *Indicates the provision of variable dearness allowance with the minimum rates of wage.

अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय बाजार में भारत के निर्यात का कम हिस्सा

*154. **श्री अजीत जोगी:** क्या वाणिज्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय बाजार में भारत के निर्यात का हिस्सा बहुत कम है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं और निर्यात में इसके वास्तविक हिस्से के संबंध में ब्यौरा क्या है; और

(ग) निर्यात में वृद्धि करने के लिए सरकार द्वारा क्या कदम उठाए गए हैं?

वाणिज्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री बोला बुल्ली रामैया): (क) विश्व के निर्यात व्यापार में भारत का हिस्सा वर्ष 1990 में 0.45 प्रतिशत था जो वर्ष 1995 में बढ़कर 0.64 प्रतिशत हो गया है। विश्व व्यापार संगठन के आंकड़ों के अनुसार, विश्व के निर्यात में भारत के दर्जे में भी सुधार हुआ है।

(ख) विश्व के निर्यातों में भारत के निर्यात का कम हिस्सा होने के कारणों में अन्य कारणों के साथ-साथ ये कारण भी शामिल हैं: विकासशील निर्यात-अभिमुख उत्पादन क्षमता की बजाय अभी कुछ समय पहले तक आयात प्रतिस्थापन-अभिमुख नीतियां अपनाने पर जोर देना, भारतीय निर्यातों के सामने कड़ी प्रतिस्पर्द्धा होना तथा व्यापार पर टैरिफ तथा गैर-टैरिफ रुकावटें होना।

(ग) निर्यात संवर्धन किया जाना एक सतत् प्रक्रिया है और सरकार द्वारा नीतियों और प्रक्रियाओं को सरल बना कर, द्विपक्षीय व्यापार संबंधों में सुधार लाकर, निर्यात अवस्थापनाओं संबंधी अड़चनों को दूर करके, भारतीय उत्पादों की गुणवत्ता तथा प्रतिस्पर्द्धा को बढ़ाकर तथा उत्पादों तथा बाजारों के रूप में निर्यातों में विविधता, आदि लाकर निर्यात बढ़ाने के लिए उपाय किए जाते हैं।

Involvement of FCI in corruption and racketeering

*155. SHRI O.P. KOHLI: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are allegations that the Food Corporation of India is involved in the racketeering of issue of wheat and corruption;